LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1(Currently Amended). A method of fabricating PTFE material comprising:

preparing a mixture of PTFE resin powder and a susceptor material;

feeding the mixture into a compaction zone to at least partially compact and shape the mixture; and

providing a continuous flow of the mixture from the compaction zone downstream to a separate heating zone and heating and sintering the mixture within the heating zone by exciting the susceptor material by application of wave energy and drawing a vacuum directly on the mixture downstream from the compaction zone and within the heating zone while sintering the mixture to extract air from the mixture.

2(Cancelled).

3(Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 wherein the heating zone has an initial stage for preheating and finishing compaction of the mixture prior to sintering the mixture.

4(Previously Presented). The method of claim 1 including passing the sintered mixture through a cooling zone following the heating zone.

5(Original). The method of claim 1 including cutting the PTFE material while the mixture is at a temperature below a sintering temperature within the heating zone but above ambient temperature.

6(Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the mixture is compacted into a generally tubular form.

7(Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the mixture is heated by microwave energy.

8(Currently Amended). A method of fabricating a PTFE material, comprising:

preparing a mixture of PTFE resin powder and a susceptor material;

compacting the mixture; and

sintering the mixture by exciting the susceptor material with microwave energy and drawing a vacuum directly on the compacted mixture during the sintering step to extract air from the mixture after the compacting step.

9(Cancelled).